

PRESS RELEASE

June 30, 2006

RE: UNITED STATES v. CHAD MARKS

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced that on June 27, 2006, Chad Marks, of Rochester, New York, was found guilty after a 12 day trial of eight counts involving the possession and distribution of illegal narcotics and conspiracy to distribute narcotics, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841 and 846, and possession of firearms in furtherance of drug trafficking crimes. The convictions carry a minimum term of imprisonment of 40 years, a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, and a maximum fine of \$4,000,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Andy Rodriguez, along with co-counsel Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Marangola, who handled the case, stated that the defendant was arrested after a lengthy investigation conducted by the Greater Rochester Area Narcotics Enforcement Team ("GRANET"). Investigators Michael Desain, from the Brighton Police Department, and Theresa Dearcop, from the Rochester Police Department, headed the investigation. The investigation and the evidence at trial revealed that Chad Marks headed a drug trafficking organization which operated numerous drug houses around the City of Rochester from which crack cocaine was sold. Firearms were possessed at several of these houses to protect the drugs, drug proceeds, and workers who sold crack to customers. Several of these firearms were seized during the investigation. The investigation and evidence further revealed that Chad Marks used violence in his drug operation, including beating up a worker who provided information to police about Marks' drug operations.

The trial concluded June 27, 2006, in front of Honorable David G.
Larimer, United States District Court Judge.